



The judges only had eyes for Deyanira Henrich as the first “Carni-Eyes Queen!”

Aruba’s Carnival season is not just a parade or two, but weeks or months of various events that offer islanders and visitors an opportunity to celebrate life and just have a darn good time. Each year, aside from the “official” events, various groups organize “side events,” some of which have become carnival traditions, such as the Hebbe-Hebbe Happening. This year the Eyes Lounge, in conjunction with Revlon, Drive World Motors and Aruba Trading Company held the “Carnival-EYES Youth Queen” competition in their club located in the Dakota Shopping Paradise on Wednesday night, and it looks like a winner! Another winner was Deyanira Tatiana Henrich, Youth Queen Candidate of the Graficas Aruba Carnival Group. Her elegant maquillage of rhinestones and shimmer created by make-up artist Johnnier Custaneda won over the judges, and much of the audience that packed the club to cheer on their favorite candidate. It was music, dancing and Johnny Walker Red or Black for the over 21 members of the crowd from sponsors Aruba Trading Company. They also provided a gift of various Revlon products, which was presented to each participant in the contest by product manager Juraima Quevedo. As winner, Deyanira also received a give of 750 Aruban Florins from Revlon to be applied to her education. Andon Bernabela, representing Drive Motors also presented the young winner with the captivating eyes a check for 250 florins to tuck away for her college fund. Noted local photographer Emperatriz Perdomo will provide a blow-up portrait of the lovely Deyanira for her to keep as a memory of that special moment when Eyes club owner Lorenzo Arends picked her out of the line-up.

Six beautiful young women, bubbling with vivacity and carnival spirit made it a tough decision for the judges, Magali Maduro, Geraldine Muller and Leco Croes, all carnival veterans. Their criteria were the Carnival Fantasy element of the design and spirit of the make-up, originality, application, and beauty. Aside from Deyanira, the teenage candidates included Hilyann Leanni Croes from Santa Cruz, Jose-Anne Elizabeth Carmen Wever from the Champagne Group, Daniela Ramos, queen candidate from the Colegio Arubano, Marlylu Martis from the Splash Carnival Group, and Maris Elena Croes representing Pan Cayente & TOB.

Every one of the girls had gorgeously made up eyes that were a fantasy realized, and many sported whimsical hairstyles to match. Combine that with the colorful glittery costumes that caught the spotlight, and the driving carnival music, and you have an exciting, fun evening filled with BLING!